

SENATE BILL 1790

By Ramsey

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 7-82-308,  
relative to utility districts.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 7-82-308(a), is amended by adding  
the following language as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

(3)

(A)

(i) In any county having a population of not less than one hundred  
forty thousand (140,000) nor more than one hundred forty-five thousand  
(145,000) according to the 1990 federal census or any subsequent  
federal census, the members of a utility district board of commissioners  
shall serve without compensation for their services, except that, by  
resolution duly adopted by the board of commissioners, each  
commissioner may receive per diem payments for not more than twelve  
(12) meetings of the board of commissioners in any calendar year, at  
rates not greater than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) per meeting.

(ii) In addition, group medical insurance coverage and group life insurance coverage may be provided for commissioners as such coverage is provided for other employees, or premiums for an equivalent or similar group medical coverage and group life insurance may be paid; however, payment of such medical coverage and group life insurance coverage must not exceed the per person cost of the district's group medical insurance coverage and group life insurance coverage for its employees.

(B) Any resolution adopted, pursuant to subitem (3)(A)(i) on or after July 1, 2001, shall not take effect unless and until it is ratified by a majority of the customers of the utility district as provided herein. Upon adopting any such resolution, the board must promptly schedule a meeting of the district's customers for an election of ratification. Such election of ratification must coincide with the next succeeding meeting at which one or more persons will be elected or selected to serve on the utility district board of commissioners. At least thirty (30) days prior to the date of such meeting, the board must mail written notice to all customers of the utility district announcing the time, place and purposes of such meeting. If a majority of the customers present and voting at the meeting favor ratification of the resolution, then the resolution shall immediately take effect.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001, the public welfare requiring it.